

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 09490 081648Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SAB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 NIC-01

IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /101 W

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R 081444Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4133

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

UNCLAS VIENNA 9490

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, AU, XF

SUBJ: SECOND SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL FACT-FINDING MISSION TO
MIDDLE EAST POSTPONED

REF : VIENNA 8199

1. CHANCELLOR KREISKY ANNOUNCED IN RADIO INTERVIEW NOV 7 THAT SECOND FACT-FINDING MISSION OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL (SI) TO MIDDLE EAST, WHICH HE WAS TO HAVE HEADED THIS MONTH, HAD BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL JANUARY OR FEBRUARY. REASONS HE CITED WERE INABILITY OF BRITISH SOCIALISTS TO PARTICIPATE BECAUSE OF LABOUR PARTY CONGRESS, HIS OWN TRIP TO US, NOV 9 - 14, AND AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET DEBATE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER.

2. KREISKY DENIED THAT POSTPONEMENT RESULTED FROM ANY RECENT SHARPENDING OF SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST OR PERSONAL DANGERS TRIP MIGHT ENTAIL. HE SAID SI EFFORT WAS "NOT PEACE MISSION" AND SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH EFFORTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER OR
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 09490 081648Z

SOVIET UNION. SI OBJECTIVE IS TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS, NOT PRE-

VENT WAR.

3. ASKED IF THIS DID NOT DOWNGRADE SI SINCE SOCIALIST PARTIES CLOSE TO SI ARE INVOLVED IN MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, AND IF THE MIDDLE EAST MIGHT NOT BECOME SI'S WATERLOO, CHANCELLOR RESPONDED THAT ONLY ISRAELI LABOUR PARTY WAS SI MEMBER AND PURPOSE OF SI MISSION WAS PRECISELY TO FIND OUT WHETHER THERE WERE PARTIES IN ARAB STATES "WHICH COULD ENTER INTO RELATIONSHIP OF PROXIMITY TO, NOT MEMBERSHIP IN, SI".

4. KREISKY CONCLUDED THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THERE WERE AT MOMENT ANY PRACTICAL CHANCES FOR DURABLE SOLUTION OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT BUT EXPRESSED HOPE CERTAIN CALM COULD BE MAINTAINED IN SPITE OF RECENT DRAMATIC EXACERBATION OF SITUATION. MOWINCKEL

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